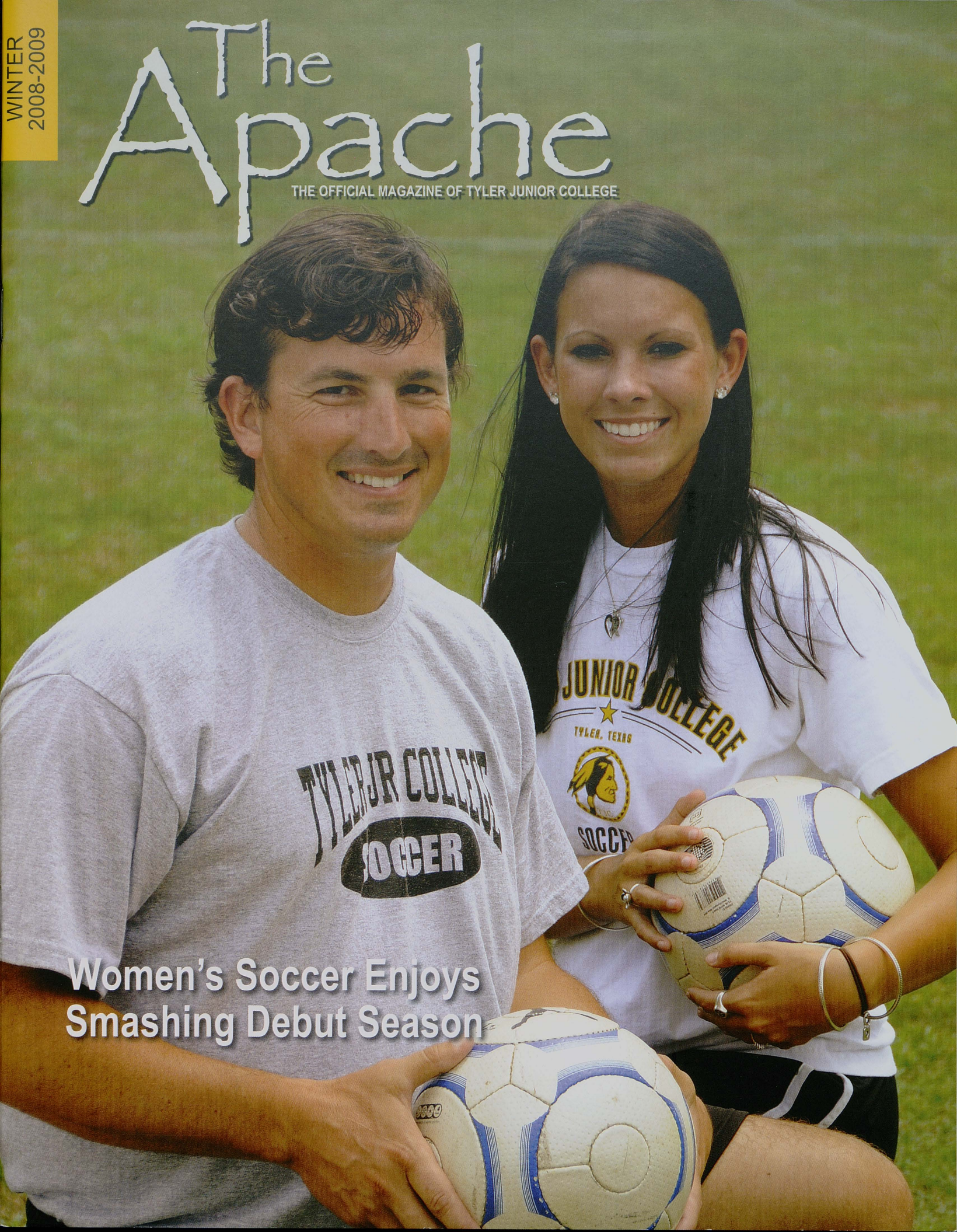
WINTER
2008-2009

The Apache

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF TYLER JUNIOR COLLEGE



Women's Soccer Enjoys Smashing Debut Season

The Apache
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VOL. XXV, NO. 1 WINTER 2009

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TYLER JUNIOR COLLEGE
CHANGING LIVES

Tyler Junior College gives equal consideration to all applicants for admission, employment and participation in its programs and activities without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, gender, age, marital status, disability or veteran status.

Calendar OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY 19, 2009
Wind Ensemble Concert
Jean Browne Theatre - 7:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY 25 - 28
Spring Musical:
"Annie, Get Your Gun"
Wise Auditorium - 7:30 p.m.

MARCH 5
Symphonic and Concert Bands Concert
Jean Browne Theatre - 7:30 p.m.

MARCH 25 - 26
Jazz Festival
Wise Auditorium - 7:30 p.m.

APRIL 2 - 4
Apache Belles Spring Show
Wise Auditorium - 7:30 p.m.

APRIL 15 - 19
Theatre Production:
"Cover of Life"
Jean Browne Theatre - 7:30 p.m., except Sunday's matinee

APRIL 21
TJC Concert Bands Concert
Wise Auditorium - 7:30 p.m.

MAY 1 - 2
Dancefest
Wise Auditorium - 7:30 p.m.

MAY 8
Spring Commencement
Wagstaff Gymnasium - 7 p.m.

MAY 10 - 19
Service Project Trip
Costa Rica

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The Apache

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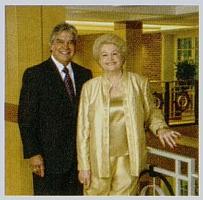

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COVER PICTURE:

Whitehouse freshman Kayla Mason was the first recruit of TJC's new women's soccer program.

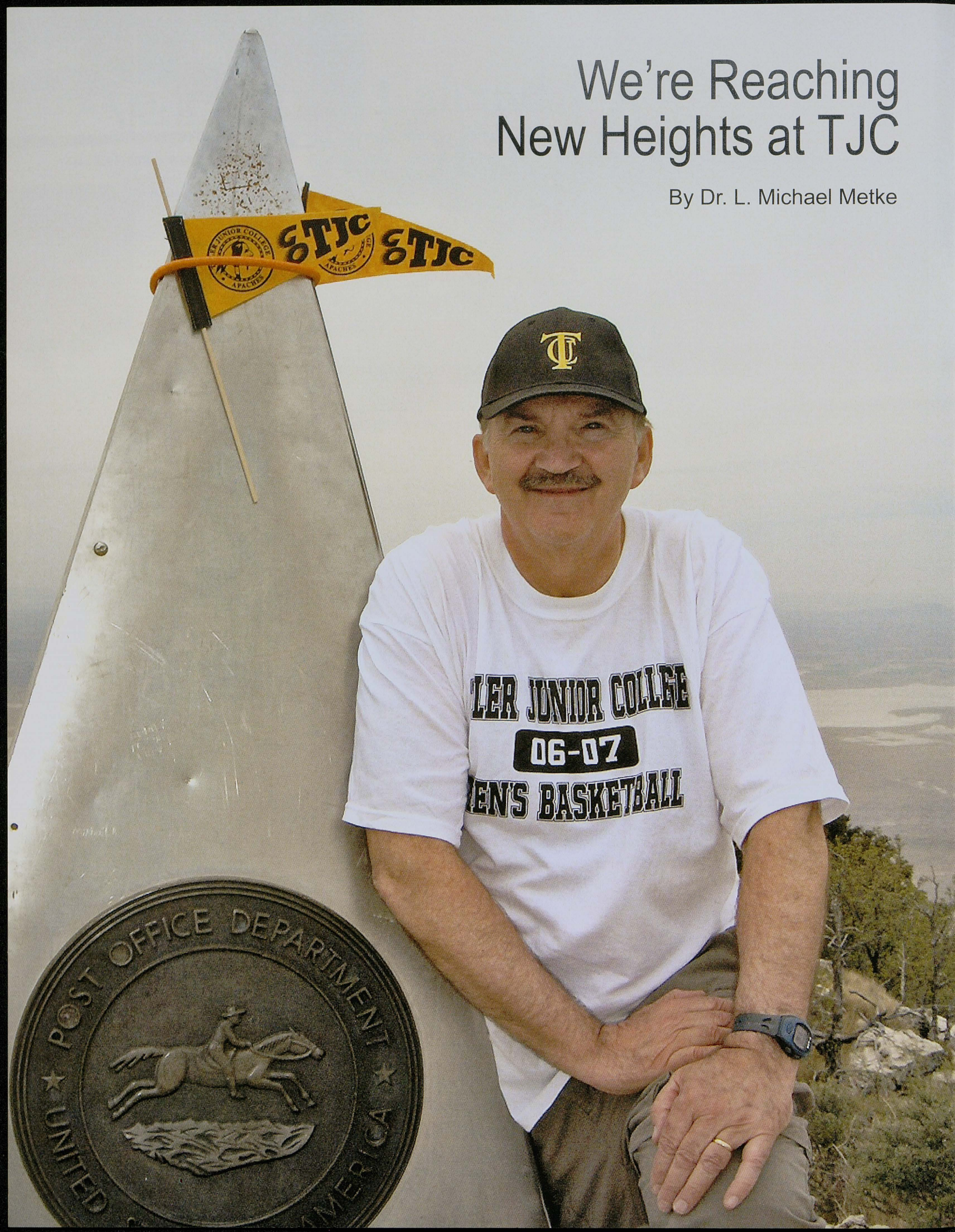
Kayla was recruited and signed to play soccer at TJC just a few weeks before Coach Corey Rose was hired to lead the Apache Ladies.

See story on Page 18.

This issue represents the 25th anniversary of the Apache magazine and marks the beginning of a new production schedule for Winter and Summer editions. As always, we welcome any and all suggestions and story ideas. Submit to apache@tjc.edu.

We're Reaching New Heights at TJC

By Dr. L. Michael Metke



It has been a whirlwind of a first year here at TJC.

Thanks to the input of faculty, staff and students who participated in focus groups in the Spring semester, we identified several areas of need, and we've been able to implement many of the suggestions.

These groups also helped to identify what we want the TJC of the future to look like. The suggestions and ideas were the springboard for a new strategic plan that was crafted by Marc Chinoy of the Regis Group and finalized in September, under the supervision of a planning committee led by Dr. Cheryl Rogers, director of institutional planning and effectiveness, and Brian Turman, our director of campus services.

One of the first things identified – even before the implementation of the strategic planning committee – was the need to take our college to the people. You can read more about that in the Promise One article about our new initiatives in Lindale and Jacksonville on page 16.

We soon found great friends in Lindale, a growing city to our north that is blessed with leaders who want and expect economic and academic advancement. When approached about the concept of a TJC location in Lindale, city and high school leaders sprang into action.

In June, we opened TJC-Lindale, a two-classroom facility made possible by a generous gift from the Lindale Economic Development Council. This fall, we're offering eight courses at TJC-Lindale and planning on expansion for the future.

The location offers the opportunity for high schools in northern Smith, eastern Van Zandt and southern Wood counties a closer location for joint dual credit offerings through TJC. It also saves gasoline for students of the region (parking at TJC-Lindale is easier than parking on our main campus, too!).

Dual credit is another frontier where we're making strides. So interested in the academic future of its students is Lindale High School that they have agreed to a partnership to assure that financial constraints do not prevent students from taking and excelling in dual credit courses. If the cost of taking TJC dual credit courses is an impediment, LHS and TJC will split the tuition and fees for a student.

Because of this genuine interest in dual credit, Lindale High School lays claim to the highest dual credit enrollment of any high school in the TJC service area, with students earning both high school and college credit. We're proud of the work being done in Lindale and we're citing them as an example when we talk with other schools in the region.

"When I learned of the potential for returning our program to Jacksonville, I began to work with the leadership of ETMC, Trinity Mother Frances and the Jacksonville Economic Development Corporation."

Lindale Independent School District Superintendent Stan Surratt has a vision of seeing students graduate with a college degree at the same time as they receive a high school diploma. We're poised to make that a reality.

I continue to sing the praises of James K. "Red" Brown, executive director of the Lindale Economic Development Council, the LEDC board and Surratt. They're true warriors for academic opportunity and we're glad to have them on our team.

While we were wrapping up details on the Lindale facility, Paul Monagan, our dean of allied health and nursing, and I were pulling together leaders in the medical community to help us with another venture in Jacksonville.

Not long ago, TJC had a licensed vocational nurse education program in Jacksonville, but it had to be moved back to the main campus for a variety of reasons, one of which was East Texas Medical Center's plan to demolish the old building in which it was located.

When I learned of the potential for returning our program to Jacksonville, I began to work with the leadership of ETMC, Trinity Mother Frances and the Jacksonville Economic Development Corporation. Paul Monagan jumped in with both feet and after numerous meetings and trips to Jacksonville and lots of conversations with all parties, we were close to finalizing a partnership. But time was running out for it to be ready in time for Fall classes and

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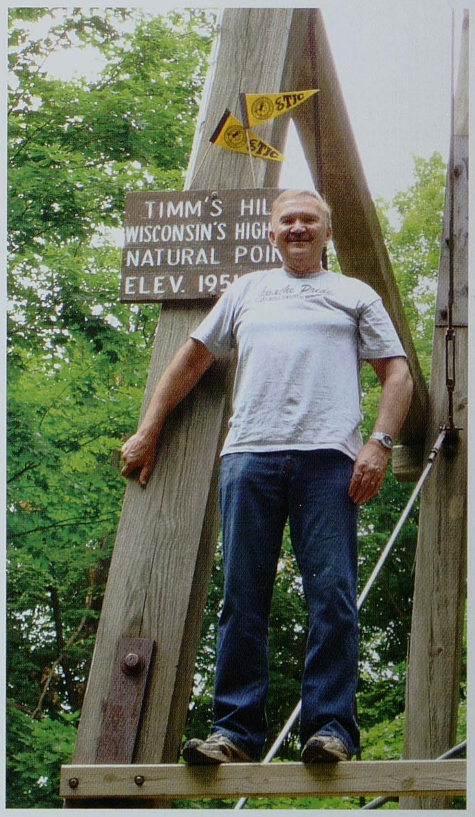


Dr. Metke was among approximately 100 TJC employees to take TJC pennants on summer travels in '08. At left, he is atop Guadalupe Peak, the highest point in Texas. At right, he is pictured at Timm's Hill, Wisconsin's highest point.

any delay beyond Fall would have meant waiting another two years for TJC's next funding cycle.

I called on former TJC board member Dr. Pat Thomas, a retired physician with strong relationships in the medical community, particularly with Trinity Mother Frances Hospitals and Clinics. He understood the critical need for nursing programs and helped us bring all the partners together just in time to meet our deadlines. The result was our TJC Jacksonville location.

"Our Fall semester enrollment was the highest on record, at more than 10,000 students."

The TJC-Jacksonville facility is located on the fourth floor of the ETMC Jacksonville hospital and boasts three skills labs and four state-of-the-art classrooms.

The Jacksonville Economic Development Corporation agreed to provide approximately $360,000 over three years to create the facility. ETMC Jacksonville provided an entire wing of the hospital and allowed demolition of 17 patient rooms. Trinity Mother Frances Hospitals & Clinics is providing $225,000 in funding over the next three years to support the LVN and RN educational programs in Jacksonville.

Dr. Metke with Louise H. and Joseph Z. Ornelas during a special preview of the Louise H. and Joseph Z. Ornelas Residential Complex in August.

I reminded our board of trustees at the ribbon-cutting ceremony in August that they had jokingly suggested that if I could get two competing hospitals to agree on something of this nature that a trip to negotiate peace in the Middle East might be in my immediate future.

But, seriously, the people of Jacksonville worked together to do something good for the economy and their future. Of the 20 LVN students studying in Jacksonville, 18 live in Cherokee County. We're hopeful that when they graduate, they'll find jobs in Jacksonville and begin contributing even more to the economy there.

We also began an associate degree nursing program in October, with an additional 20 students and there were about 120 enrollments this Fall in core curriculum courses, which serve not only the nursing programs but others as well. Future plans may include other allied health offerings at TJC-Jacksonville.

These ideas came from TJC faculty and staff and I am pleased that we were able to work so quickly to make them a reality.

Our Fall semester enrollment was the highest on record at more than 10,000 students, 462 of whom are living in our wonderful new residence hall. You can read more about the Louise H. and Joseph Z. Ornelas Residential Complex and the generosity of Louise and Joseph Ornelas on the following pages.

As you can see, it has been a great year filled with new heights and great accomplishments for TJC.

Flanked by Apache Belles, Dr. Metke cuts the ribbon on TJC-Jacksonville in August. Pictured with him, L-R, are Tom Cammack of Trinity Mother Frances-Jacksonville; Darrell Prcin of the Jacksonville Economic Development Corporation; Paul Monagan, TJC dean of allied health and nursing; Elmer Ellis, ETMC CEO; and Jack Endres, Administrator of ETMC Jacksonville.

Creating a Unique Living Space

By Becca Anderson & Fred Peters

One of the most important attractions TJC offers for its students and employees is a scenic campus with stately federal-style architecture, enhanced by lush lawns, colorful gardens and crisp landscaping.

The visual appeal of the College is like that of few other colleges and universities in the nation, particularly among two-year institutions.

So it stands to reason that when the College embarked upon the most significant building project in its last 20 years that it do so with architectural prominence in mind.

The result is one of the most impressive college residential structures in the nation.

"I was super impressed — super impressed. Because I don't think there's another one like it in the state of Texas. I have been around and seen a lot of campuses and I've never seen anything like that facility," said Louise H. Ornelas.

Joseph Z. and Louise H. Ornelas provided an initial investment in the $29 million Louise H. and Joseph Z. Ornelas Residential Complex. The remainder of construction was funded through the issuance of revenue bonds. The bond package included enough to construct a satellite physical plant that was necessary to provide heating and cooling to the new hall and to relieve pressure on the existing plant.

Louise H. Ornelas, with scissors at right, is assisted by Tyler Mayor Barbara Bass and Dr. Metke as the ribbon on the new residence hall is cut. Joseph Z. Ornelas looks on at right.

The Ornelases are impressed with what proper planning and attention to detail have provided TJC. The hall took more than three years to plan, fund and construct.

Seeing students enjoy the new facility while attending TJC to better their lives brings joy to Mrs. Ornelas.

"Since I didn't get to do any of that, it thrills my heart to pieces to see kids get to have the better things," she said.

"I just sit and cry sometimes thinking about how many people will go through TJC and live in that residence hall and how that will affect their lives."

The 462-bed, four-story brick structure includes two wings linked by covered bridgeways. Its amenities are the finest on campus.

Randall Scott Architects designed the complex. The firm specializes in higher education architecture, and from the beginning, Randall Scott knew this project would be special.

"The unique design factor is the creek that bisects the property," he said. Rather than enclose the creek and build over it, "we suggested a more sustainable green concept of constructing two four-story buildings connected by two 100-foot bridges spanning the creek. This utilizes the creek as an amenity, creating vistas for the rooms and verandas on the creek sides of the buildings where students can relax, study and enjoy nature."

> "I have been around and seen a lot of campuses, and I've never seen anything like that facility."

The facility features private baths in each suite, laundry facilities on each floor, as well as a communal coffee lounge, meeting and game rooms, a convenience store, catering kitchen and an activities courtyard.

"A high-speed cyber lounge/computer lab pulls students out of their rooms to engage in electronic communications and gaming while participating in campus life activities occurring in the main building lobby," Scott said. "Drawing students out of their rooms and encouraging their participation in student life activities is a major thrust of residence life directors for institutions of higher learning today."

Various features of the complex were included in the design after input from focus groups of students, residence life professionals, residence hall managers, as well as TJC faculty and staff. Their opinions and desires were key to the strong design concept.

"TJC staff members were relentlessly intent on providing a landmark project. Not many clients have this kind of vision in today's marketplace, so the credit really goes to TJC and the Ornelases for making and sticking to this commitment," Scott said.

Scott said the complex easily surpasses facilities found at four-year universities and will be a strong draw for student recruitment.

The complex provides a much-needed residence hall to TJC, but is much more than that. It is truly a residential living complex that provides a full collegiate experience to the students.

A Home for the Belles

The fourth floor of the west wing of the complex is reserved primarily for

(continued on Page 26)

INAUGURATION CEREMONIES SIGNIFY NEW BEGINNINGS

In the 82-year history of Tyler Junior College, only six men have served as president of the college. Each brought unique gifts, skills and vision that nurtured TJC to its current success. Dr. L. Michael Metke assumed the office of president on Dec. 1, 2007, and the community celebrated his inauguration on April 4, 2008 with a ceremony rich in tradition and meaning.

> "We wanted the event to be one which would be meaningful not only for Dr. Metke, but for all who would be there."

"The Presidential Inauguration Committee spent considerable time and effort reviewing materials from inaugurations at other colleges," said committee member Richard Minter. "We didn't want just another inauguration; we wanted it to be one which Dr. Metke would remember as being his very special inauguration."

Dr. Metke is joined by his wife, Donna, and board of trustees members (L-R, first row) David Hudson, John Hills, Lonny Uzzell, (L-R, second row) David Couch, Ann Brookshire, Mike Coker, Clint Roxburgh, Peggy Smith and Joe Prud'homme.

Dr. Soon Hie Kang, secretary to the president for labor policy, South Korea, addresses the inauguration audience with "Reflections of a Colleague." Dr. Metke and Dr. Soon Hie Kang developed a partnership between South Korea and Dr. Metke's former college, Lake Washington Technical College.

The program included musical performances, processional pageantry, and personal commendation for Dr. Metke. The Apache Band Wind Ensemble and the A Cappella Choir contributed to the ceremony, as did a United States Marine Corps Color Guard.

Committee member Shelley Kersh served as macebearer for the ceremony in her capacity as president of faculty senate. "Dr. Metke appears to be a man of unquestionable honor, dedication and respect for others," she said. "He is a true man for the 21st century. His leadership style will carry TJC well into the future."

Said Minter, "For me, the highlight was the words of support from Dr. Metke's former associates and longtime friends.

"They came so far to be with him, and their support was inspiring."

—By Becca Anderson

The inaugural delegation attended a luncheon at Willow Brook Country Club prior to the processional ceremony in Wagstaff Gym. With Dr. and Mrs. Metke, from left to right, are former Tyler mayor Joey Seeber; State Senator Kevin Eltife; Trustee David Hudson; State Representative Leo Berman; State Representative Bryan Hughes; and Smith County Judge Joel Baker.

ON Campus

AUTO TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM RECEIVES NATEF CERTIFICATION

The automotive technology program has been granted National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation certification, making it the only non-articulated secondary and post-secondary auto tech program in a community college in Texas.

NATEF is the educational arm of the Automotive Service Excellence organization (ASE) which ensures that automotive-based programs operate to industry standards. NATEF certification is the prerequisite standard for credit transfer from high school auto technician programs to related associate's degree majors.

"We've come a long way in a short time," said Jeff Parks, TJC director of industrial trades programs and department chair of automotive technology.

"They become a very marketable person right away."

"Vehicles are far more complex now," said TJC auto tech instructor Dave Barbieri. "Twenty-five years ago, you saw vehicles with one or perhaps two computers on board. Now, it's not uncommon to have a dozen or more computers on board, all of them talking together. You're also seeing wireless technology."

That's one of the reasons TJC's auto tech program is gaining such popularity.

Parks, who came to TJC in January 2007, said the program is putting a major emphasis on the "technology" part of automotive technology.

Auto tech isn't just about lug wrenches and oil changes anymore.

The TJC automotive technology team consists of Jeff Parks, director of industrial trades/department chair, auto technology, second row, center, and (L-R) David Briscoe, Mir Alikhan, Todd Perry and David Barbieri.

"To work in the industry today is to know quite a bit about math and physics," Parks said. "Math and physics are two important things for students coming into any program, and they must also have an adequate reading level.

"Most of our technical manuals are written on a 12th to 13th grade level, and for a student to understand that, they need to be able to tackle that information and apply it in their class work."

TJC is also planning to provide specialized training in new technologies.

"Alternative fuel is a hot topic right now," Parks said, "and we will begin to do training in everything from biodeisel to ethanol to fuel-cell vehicles and hybrids."

A recent streamlining of the TJC auto tech program will give students an opportunity to finish their degree in a timely fashion and at an affordable cost.

"Our priority is to give the students the best bang for their buck," he said. "We'll give them a high quality education and get them ready for an entry-level position at a dealership or in a shop."

The program is also part of TJC's dual-credit program in which high school students can enroll in the program and receive high school and college credit simultaneously.

"What that means is a student who enrolls in our two-year program as a junior in high school can have their first certificate done by August of the year they graduate," he said.

"Secondly, by going through the dual-credit program, the school district pays for all the classes, and the school district will reimburse the student for the ASE certifications that they pass.

"They become a very marketable person right away," he said.

TJC's secondary program is NATEF certified in brake systems, electrical systems, engine performance systems, suspension and steering. The post-secondary program is NATEF master certified in brake systems, electrical systems, engine performance systems, suspension/steering, automatic transmission and transaxles, engine repair, heating and air conditioning systems, and manual drive train and axles.

DR. KHOSROWSHAHI NAMED TEXAS PROFESSOR OF YEAR

The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education have named Dr. Manoucher Khosrowshahi the 2008 Texas Professor of the Year.

Dr. Manoucher Khosrowshahi

Dr. Khosrowshahi was selected from nearly 300 top professors in the United States.

The U.S. Professors of the Year program salutes the most outstanding undergraduate instructors in the country—those who excel in teaching and positively influence the lives and careers of students.

Dr. Khosrowshahi has nearly 30 years of teaching experience and is listed in *Who's Who Among American Teachers*. He is also nationally recognized as one of the preeminent scholars on the Middle East, Islam and the Arab World and he has completed extensive teaching and research on the politics and culture of the Middle East.

He has led 19 travel-study groups on seven to 10-day trips to Turkey, designed to enrich the American public's knowledge of early Christianity, archeology, Turkey and the Middle East.

In 2006, he was named one of 25 instructors selected to a post-doctoral fellowship at the United States Institute of Peace in Washington, D.C., on the topic of post-9/11 peace and security.

As part of his research in comparative politics, Dr. Khosrowshahi traveled to Japan in 1997, Thailand in 1995 (as a Fulbright project participant), and Iran in 1993.

He is fluent in Azari Turkish, Farsi and Arabic.

"I am deeply honored by this award but it is not an award for me," he said of his selection as Texas Professor of the Year. "I consider this a form of recognition for my college, my colleagues, our faculty and administration and my students."

Dr. Khosrowshahi has received numerous grants from the U.S. Department of Education (Funds for Improvement of Post Secondary Education and Fulbright), Middle East Institute, Middle East Policy Council, United States Institute of Peace, Tyler Junior College's Student Enrichment Program (Global Education Projects and activities), Texas Commission on the Arts, Texas Council for the Humanities and many other private and public organizations.

Khosrowshahi received his B.A. degree at the National University of Iran and his M.A. degree from the University of Tehran. As valedictorian in the master's program, he received a scholarship from the University of Tehran to complete his doctorate degree at the University of North Texas.

CASE and the Carnegie Foundation have been partners in offering Professors of the Year since 1981. TIAA-CREF, one of America's leading financial services organizations and higher education's premier retirement system, became the primary sponsor for the awards ceremony in 2000. Additional support for the program is received from a number of higher education associations, including Phi Beta Kappa.

This year, there were winners in 44 states, the District of Columbia and Guam. CASE assembled two preliminary panels of judges to select finalists and state winners.

The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching was founded in 1905 by Andrew Carnegie "to do all things necessary to encourage, uphold and dignify the profession of teaching." The foundation is the only advanced-study center for teachers in the world and the third-oldest foundation in the nation. Its nonprofit research activities are conducted by a small group of distinguished scholars.

> "I consider this a form of recognition for my college, our faculty and our students."

The Council for Advancement and Support of Education is the largest international association of education institutions, serving more than 3,400 universities, colleges, schools, and related organizations in 61 countries.

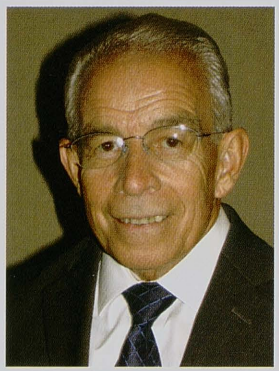
CASE is the leading resource for professional development, information, and standards in the fields of educational fundraising, communications, marketing and alumni relations.

ON Campus

DR. BUTCH HAYES NAMED PROVOST

Dr. Homer "Butch" Hayes was named provost in October.

Dr. Hayes filled a position vacated by Dr. Mark Escamilla, who accepted the position of president at Del Mar College in September.


Dr. "Butch" Hayes

Dr. Hayes served as president of College of the Mainland from 1999 until July 2008.

He began his career in 1965 teaching business at a high school in Illinois. From 1966 to 1975, he worked for the Peace Corps in Africa and Washington. He returned to teaching in San Antonio, where he served as dean of workforce development for Alamo Community College and interim president before joining College of the Mainland.

As president of College of the Mainland, he supervised a college with a $30 million budget, 3,930 credit students, approximately 10,000 annual students in continuing education and 1,500 students in adult basic education, GED and English as a second language instruction in the suburban Houston community college district.

Dr. Hayes received a Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction from The University of Texas at Austin in 1997. He earned a Master of Science degree in business education from Northern Illinois University in 1965 and a Bachelor of Science degree in administration and accounting from Northern Illinois University in 1964.

JANNA CHANCEY TO LEAD ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

Janna Chancey was named executive director of enrollment management services in July.

In the new position, Chancey supervises admissions, registrar and academic advising services of the College,

From 2004 until July of 2008, Chancey served as director of the University of Texas at Tyler advising center, focusing on student retention, transfer of undergraduate students, advisement, registration, supplemental instruction and early intervention.

Janna Chancey

Prior to joining UT Tyler, Chancey served as director of enrollment management at TJC, 2001-04; and as a TJC admissions counselor, 1990-2001.

Chancey completed a master's degree in human resource development from The University of Texas at Tyler in 2006. She holds a bachelor's degree in communications from Sam Houston State University (1988) and began her college study at TJC.

LISA HARPER TAPPED TO HEAD PREPARATORY STUDIES

Lisa Harper was named dean of college preparatory studies in July.

Harper administers the academic school of College Preparatory Studies and its programs, manages curricula and provides results-oriented leadership to the school.

Since 2006, Harper had served as coordinator of the international baccalaureate program with Tyler Independent School District. From 2001-2005, she worked at Texas State Technical College in Marshall, first as an instructor of composition, humanities, success and basic writing skills, 2001-2002; then as program chair for developmental education, 2002-2004; and finally as associate dean, learner support services, 2004-05.

Lisa Harper

Prior to joining TSTC, she was a secondary English teacher with Hallsville High School, 1997-2000; a graduate teaching fellow, department of English, Southeastern Louisiana University, 1995-1997; and secondary English teacher, St. James Parish Public Schools, Lutcher, LA, 1993-1994.

Harper received a Bachelor of Arts degree in literary studies from The University of Texas at Dallas in 1992 and a Master of Arts degree in English from Southeastern Louisiana University in 1997.

INDOOR DRUM LINE WINS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

The TJC indoor drum line won the Winter Guard International Indoor Drumline World Championship in Dayton, Ohio in the spring.

Each student in the group received a gold medal. The group received a banner and trophy.

The indoor drum line is under the direction of Tom McGowan, TJC director of percussion studies, and Karman Trotter-Yoder, visual instructor. Their winning routine was entitled "Body Language."

ROGERS LEADS EFFORTS FOR ACCREDITATION

Dr. Cheryl Rogers, who served as instructor of music, director of TJC singing groups and managing director of Wise Auditorium for many years, is now leading the College's accreditation efforts as the institution prepares for its 10-year evaluation process.

Now director of institutional effectiveness, research and planning, Rogers heads a team preparing for continuing accreditation with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

Dr. Cheryl Rogers

She and Brian Turman, director of campus services, led the development of a new strategic plan, which was approved by the board of trustees in October. The strategic plan was one of the first steps toward accreditation.

In November, the board approved new mission and vision statements for the institution. The new statements will become part of official documents that guide the College's re-accreditation process.

The new statements will be included in an upcoming public document to be distributed to community leaders in February.

The SACS accreditation processes includes a self-appraisal as well as a site visit.

The site visit is scheduled to take place in 2011.

Tyler Junior College student volunteers shelter nursing home evacuees from the rain as they are transported into the shelter after Hurricane Ike made landfall, Sept. 11.

COLLEGE PROVIDES RELIEF SHELTER AFTER HURRICANES

Tyler Junior College once again served as a temporary home for residents of nursing homes in the Beaumont area displaced by hurricanes. Evacuations of the coastal areas brought Beaumont area residents to TJC after the arrival of Gustav and Ike in August and September.

From Aug. 30 to Sept. 4, 214 evacuees from Silsbee Convalescent Center in Silsbee, Oakwood Manor in Vidor and Magnolia Manor in Groves resided in Gentry Gym, inside the Ornelas Health & Physical Education Center.

During Hurricane Ike, which devastated portions of the coast, the gym housed 162 residents from Vidor and Groves. The Silsbee Convalescent Center did not make the second trip due to a shortage of transportation resources by the time the special needs evacuation order was issued. As a result of Hurricane Ike, TJC served as a shelter for 16 days.

"Our students, faculty and staff did a tremendous job of serving these patients and making them feel welcome," TJC President Dr. Mike Metke said during an appreciation reception in October.

The College is the contracted evacuation site for the nursing homes, which are operated by Cantex Senior Communities. The College and nursing home personnel meet periodically to ensure smooth operations during periods of severe storms along the Gulf Coast.

The Cantex facilities have utilized TJC as a resource on three occasions since Hurricane Rita hit in 2005.

Nursing home personnel bring equipment and personnel to care for the patients, but also rely heavily upon student and community volunteers to provide meals and other basic services.

Approximately 300 student volunteers from the College's allied health and nursing programs, music programs and athletics teams worked in the shelter with allied health and nursing students amassing more than 5,000 man-hours of work. In addition, nearly 100 faculty, staff and community members contributed to the success of the shelter operation.

ON Campus

RUTH FLYNN NAMED TO DANCE INSTRUCTORS' HALL OF FAME

Long-time director and choreographer of the world-famous Apache Belles Ruth Flynn was inducted into the Texas Dance and Drill Team Educators Association's Hall of Fame in January.

Ruth Flynn

The Hall of Fame induction ceremony took place at the conclusion of the state convention and clinic, Jan. 10, at the Marriott Westchase in Houston.

The Hall of Fame Award is the most prestigious award achieved by an individual of the dance/drill team field in Texas.

Recipients are selected upon the basis of their contributions to dance and drill team activities and their outstanding accomplishments with dance and drill teams in Texas.

"I am flattered to be recognized in this way by an organization for which I have the utmost respect," Flynn said. "It is particularly humbling to be inducted into the same hall of honor that includes Mildred Stringer and Alfred Gilliam. They set the standard for the Belles and it is a pleasure to have followed in their footsteps."

Flynn joined Tyler Junior College in May 1984 and became the full-time director and choreographer of the Belles in September of 1985.

She was present at the TDEA conference in 1996 when Stringer and Gilliam were among the first group of Texas dance and drill pioneers to be inducted.

COSTA RICA SERVICE TRIP SCHEDULED FOR LATE SPRING

The College is offering a service project trip to Costa Rica for students who wish to see a beautiful part of Central America and assist the Peace Corps in special projects, May 10-19, 2009.

The trip will include a two-day service project that has yet to be identified but which will be of service in some capacity to the targeted population in Costa Rica.

"We hope this will be the beginning of an ongoing service program for the region that will allow our students to assist Peace Corps efforts in the areas of health education, city beautification and small engine repair," said John Hays, instructor, Spanish and department chair of foreign languages.

Following the service project, the group will transfer to the beachside Hotel Ocotal.

The trip includes visits to Liberia, Guanacaste, Monteverde Cloud Forest, Arenal Volcano National Park and San Jose, Costa Rica.

> "We hope this will be the beginning of an ongoing service program for the region ..."

Students interested in participating and individuals interested in providing scholarships or sponsoring a student on the trip should contact Hays at 903-510-2457.

Students of TJC may apply for $1,000 scholarships. The application process includes the submission of an essay on how the trip will blend with the three promises of Tyler Junior College – a quality education, a vibrant student life and community service.

TJC President Dr. Mike Metke addresses a crowd gathered at the ribbon-cutting and dedication of the Family Learning Center of Tyler. The Family Learning Center provides TJC students studying early childhood care with hands-on experience working with toddlers and young children. Parents of many of the children take English as a second language (ESL) and adult basic education classes in the facility, which is located at Tyler Independent School District's Douglas Elementary. Adult basic education and ESL courses are taught by the Literacy Council of Tyler, making the facility a prime example of the success to be had through partnerships.

It is a tradition for all attending the annual Sports Circle of Honor to wear their commemorative jackets and pose for a group photo. Pictured on the front row, left to right, are: Harry Bostic, Robert Cox, Fred Kniffen, C.L. Nix, Gene Shannon, James "Babe" Hallmark and Ardie Dixon. The back row, left to right, is Jimmy Murphy, Charlie McGinty, Dessie Samuels, Robert Price, Lloyd Pate, Jim Wright, John Linney, Evelyn Jo Troell Newman and Herb Richardson.

SEVEN INDUCTED INTO TJC SPORTS CIRCLE OF HONOR

Tyler Junior College recognized its 11th group of inductees into the TJC Sports Circle of Honor during an awards luncheon in June.

The 2008 inductees were:

- Lloyd L. Pate, football, 1958-59;
- C.L. Nix, basketball, 1952-54;
- Ardie D. Dixon, basketball, 1959-60;
- Robert (Bob) Price, football, 1960-61;
- Dessie M. Samuels, women's tennis, 1973-75;
- Evelyn Jo Troell Newman, women's basketball, 1975-77;
- Billy Jack Doggett, basketball 1953-55 and TJC athletic director, 1988-2000.

"We are excited to bring the names of these individuals into the fold of our esteemed Sports Circle of Honor, recognizing the best in athletics and life after TJC," said TJC Director of Intercollegiate Athletics Dr. Tim Drain.

The Circle of Honor was established in 1995 to honor former TJC student-athletes, coaches and special contributors to the athletic program who have excelled in athletics and made an impact on the lives of others.

The Class of 2008 represents the greatest level of diversity since the program was established.

"Our goal this year was to recognize individuals from a variety of sports while adding some of the great vintage athletes to the circle," Dr. Drain said.

Previous inductees into the Circle of Honor are: Floyd Wagstaff, football and basketball coach and athletic director; James "Babe" Hallmark, football and football coach; Charlie McGinty, football and football coach; Brady P. Gentry, special contributor; Harry Bostic, Kelly Chapman, Herbert Richardson, O'Neal Weaver, James "Poo" Welch, Bonnie Buchanan Gray, Russell Boone, Janice Mulford, V.C. "Buck" Overall, Jose Palafox, Foster Bullock, Van Samford, Milton Williams, Jesse Marshall, Robert Pack, Johnny Johnston, Jana Crosby Russell and Bryan Miller, basketball; Roy Thomas, basketball player and coach; Bill "Tiger" Johnson, David Lunceford, Jimmy Murphy, Mack Pogue, Jimmy Dickey, Leon Fuller, Bill Herchman, John Linney, Dan Page, Lawrence Strickland, Dwain Bean, Kenneth Bahnsen, Kenneth Coffey, Jack Murphy, Raymond McGallion, Gene Shannon, Charles Quilter, Royce Townsend, Earl Dotson and Jim Wright, football; Fred Kniffen, tennis coach; and Robert Cox, tennis player and coach.

Foundation NEWS

'FOUNDATIONS' SCULPTURE COMPLETES GATEWOOD GARDEN

Tyler Junior College has long been noted for its colonial Williamsburg architectural style and campus landscape. To further enhance the beauty and functionality of the campus, a series of botanical gardens is being etsbalished. Each garden fills a role as an educational arena and an event/activity space.

The latest to join the botanical gardens project is the James F. and Virginia H. Gatewood Garden, surrounded on three sides by Jenkins Hall. Previously a little-used grassy area with low hedges and drainage problems, the courtyard is now a blossoming educational and recreational space that includes a unique sculpture representative of TJC's mission and goals.

Designed by award-winning landscape architect Naud Burnett, the garden was funded by an anonymous $250,000 gift to the TJC Foundation.

The garden is educational as well as beautiful. Students participating in TJC life science programs are researching and establishing plant labels for the gardens. Area Master Gardeners are assisting in the effort along with the City of Tyler Rose Garden.

The new garden is a study of various groundcover plants and features seven species of jasmine, 17 species of liriope, and a variety of other plantings such as azaleas, lillies, daffodils, hawthornes, amaryllis and pond cypress trees.

At the center of the garden, a unique, commissioned sculpture rises on a pedestal. Local artists Cherry and Jim Day of Whitehouse named their sculpture "Foundations" because it represents the roots for academic and personal growth provided by the College.

The sculpture was selected by the botanical gardens advisory committee because it best represents the Tyler Junior College experience. Inspired by a stack of frequently used books in a former professor's study, the sculpture depicts textbooks and other objects that form the educational experience.

A set of textbooks flanked by bookends forms the base of the sculpture. The texts are the core curriculum; the bookends represent the faculty, staff, alumni and community support TJC enjoys. Above these texts, a spiraling pillar of books from specialized courses is topped with a graduation mortarboard and diploma.

Because the mission of TJC is to inspire and facilitate lifelong learning, the sculpture does not stop with a diploma. Further up is a depiction of the 1948 Apache Yearbook—saluting the year Jenkins Hall was first used for classes, the enormous role student life plays in the TJC experience and the continuing relationship alumni have with the College. An upper tier of books represents ongoing educational opportunities far beyond graduation.

"As we designed the sculpture, we enjoyed learning about the many wonderful traditions, excellent academic programs, and vibrant student and alumni activities at TJC," Cherry Day said. "We tried to incorporate these special aspects in our artistic work. While we endeavored to make 'Foundations' a notable and attractive sculpture in terms of its overall form, we really wanted the sculpture to be about TJC and the special place it has in our community."

Virginia Gatewood, center, poses with sculptors Cherry and Jim Day in the Gatewood Garden. Behind is the "Foundations" sculpture.

A plaque summarizes the purpose and potential of the Gatewood Garden. It reads: "The Gatewood Garden was created to promote horticulture throughout East Texas and is a study of various types of ground cover. This garden honors James and Virginia, and their dedication to education, as well as their belief in taking time to reflect on life's many blessings."

As each succeeding class enters TJC, discovers the garden and enjoys its benefits, that purpose will surely be achieved.

—By Becca Anderson

"This garden honors James and Virginia (Gatewood) and their dedication to education as well as their belief in taking time to reflect on life's many blessings."

NEW ENDOWMENTS TO BENEFIT SCIENCE, NURSING STUDENTS

Two endowed scholarships to benefit students studying toward careers in chemistry or nursing have been established.

The Raul & Caridad Hernandez Scholarship Endowment

Chemistry instructor Dr. Idalia Trent has established an endowment in honor of her parents, Raul and Caridad Hernandez.

"I am constantly fascinated by the implicit rules that govern the natural world, and the power of science to ultimately exact these principles," she said. "My ultimate goal as a teacher is to awaken the intellect of my students to this lifelong fascination."

Raul, Caridad Hernandez

The endowment is made possible because of her own contributions to published lecture materials, which are used in her classes and sold nationwide for colleges and universities.

Dr. Trent is contributing funds she earns from writing so that students may benefit from the endowment.

"Both my parents were teachers," she said. "My mother taught high school biology; my father taught vocational education. It is from them that I get my love of teaching and my ideas of what a teacher should be. Their love, dedication and support allowed me to become the professional—and more importantly, the person—I am today."

The scholarship targets students who plan to pursue careers in one of the physical sciences or mathematics, primarily chemistry and chemical engineering.

This scholarship is somewhat unique because of the direct involvement of a faculty member in its creation and the process used for funding it. "I hope that the student's involvement in our chemistry program will allow us to mentor this student and ease his/her transition between high school and college," Dr. Trent said.

She is as passionate about TJC as she is about chemistry. "I believe that this institution, among all other local educational institutions, has the farthest-reaching impact in the Tyler and neighboring communities. The quality of the educational experience at TJC is second to none. Any investment in this institution is an investment in excellence."

The Teresa K. Owen Nursing Scholarship Endowment

In 2004, Teresa Owen was faced with a difficult career decision. She thought long and hard about her life and the direction to which she felt a calling.

She decided to challenge herself by returning to TJC for retraining as a nurse. Having graduated from TJC in 1983 with an associate's degree, she knew that quality instruction was available to help her turn in a new direction.

"The nursing profession offers unlimited career opportunities to women and men, and it allows you to make a difference in the lives of others," she said.

Now a registered nurse, Owen is impacting lives in a second way, through an endowed scholarship established in her name by her in-laws, through the Louis and Peaches Owen Family Foundation.

"I am extremely honored by the generosity of my family. Education is very important to us. The whole family was so supportive during my three years in school."

The scholarship will benefit returning students who are looking for a new challenge in life by continuing their education and pursuing a career as a registered nurse. The recipient will participate in TJC's Associate Degree in Nursing program, and will have been previously employed in the workforce. Priority consideration will be given to applicants 40 years of age or older. "I hope this helps ease some of the financial burden of returning to school and decrease a little of the stress that just naturally comes with juggling school, family and work," Owen said.

Teresa Owen

There are not as many scholarship opportunities for middle-aged students, and scholarships can encourage them to further their education, as she did so successfully.

Owen's husband, Paul, also attended TJC (he helped start the men's soccer program), as did her mother, and her brother- and sister-in-law. Her daughter has taken summer classes and will begin her freshman year at TJC in 2009. Thanks to the generosity of the Owen Family Foundation, a returning student who aspires to be a nurse will no doubt be joining the student body, as well.

Taking TJC to the Community

By Fred Peters

Dean of Allied Health and Nursing Paul Monagan, standing left, poses with instructors Beryl Thompson, seated left, and Mauretta "Cissy" Lux, seated center and students of the first licensed vocational nurse education class at the new Jacksonville center.

One of President Dr. Mike Metke's goals when joining TJC was to expand the College's presence in the region. When various stakeholder groups suggested satellite facilities in neighboring East Texas cities, Dr. Metke went to work.

He quickly found willing partners in Lindale, Jacksonville and Rusk. Within weeks, TJC was proclaiming partnerships with the Lindale and Jacksonville economic development corporations and working with Rusk State Hospital to schedule courses there.

The collaborative efforts included bringing competing hospital systems together for a common cause of providing skilled nursing graduates.

Individuals representing the Lindale Economic Development Corporation, Lindale Public School System, the Lindale Chamber of Commerce and TJC gather to welcome the new TJC center at Lindale in July.

"Partnerships work for a lot of reasons," he said. "At the community college level, partnerships are key to creating a framework for cost-effective instruction tailored to bring skilled workers into an environment where they not only perform well but contribute to economic expansion."

In August, 20 students began studies toward completion of the licensed vocational nurse education program. Of the 20, 19 were residents of Cherokee County.

In October, 20 additional students began pursuit of an associate's degree in nursing. The ADN students are working licensed vocational nurses who are taking a transitional curriculum to help them prepare for advanced positions in East Texas.

"We are very excited about this partnership between Tyler Junior College, both health care systems and our community," said Darrell Prcin, president of the Jacksonville Economic Development Corporation.

"With the growing need for nurses across the nation, the timing is perfect for this project. It is another example that Jacksonville is a growing and vibrant community."

Approximately 4,500 square feet of space at ETMC Jacksonville was renovated into the new training facility with four classrooms, two labs and three offices.

The new Jacksonville center includes the latest instructional technology, including two computer labs.

"The ETMC System has a strong legacy of partnerships with area junior colleges and universities for the benefit of our hospitals, the educational institutions, the students and ultimately the patients we serve," said Elmer G. Ellis, president and CEO of the ETMC Regional Healthcare System.

"As the healthcare industry continues to face shortages in nursing and other professions, these partnerships will grow even stronger. It's exciting to see our organizations work together to ensure that quality care will be available and also to promote rewarding careers in the health services field."

Trinity Mother Frances Hospitals and Clinics agreed to provide $225,000 over three years to support the Jacksonville program.

"The continued population growth of the east Texas region has increased our need for more qualified nurses," said Ray Thompson, executive vice president and chief operating officer of Trinity Mother Frances Hospitals and Clinics.

> "The timing is perfect for this project ..."

"TJC's nursing school, in the heart of Jacksonville and Cherokee County, will offer an excellent curriculum and turn out the graduates that will keep health care at the level we have come to expect."

In Lindale, it was the school district and the Lindale Economic Development Corporation that worked to create a TJC facility in the city.

The Lindale center opened with core curriculum credit courses in the second summer session. Six core curriculum

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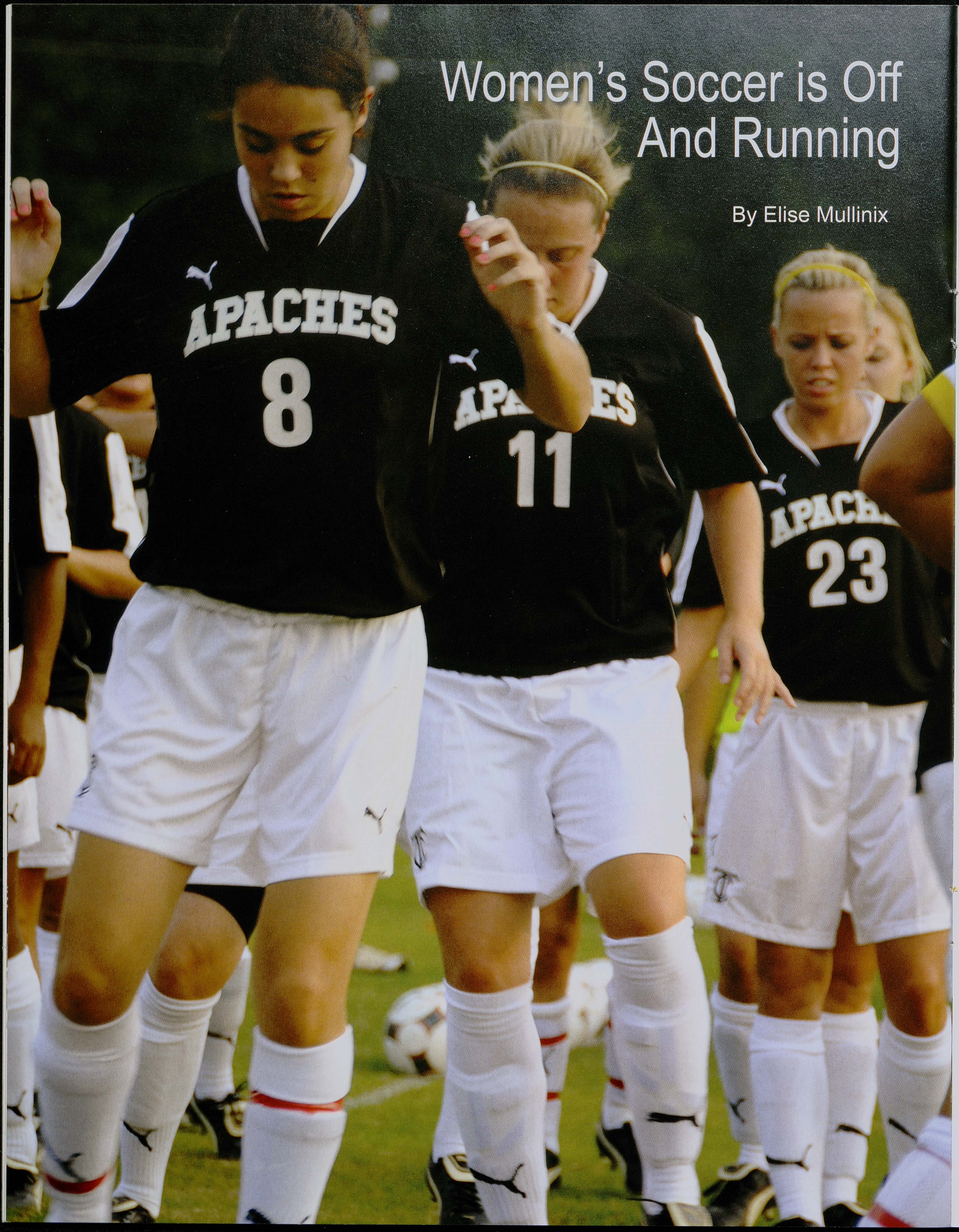
Women's Soccer is Off And Running

By Elise Mullinix



The members of the TJC inaugural women's soccer team can proudly say their first season was an unequivocal success.

Though their first season came to an end Nov. 1 in an 8-7 overtime loss to No. 2-ranked Navarro College, the Lady Apaches finished the year with 12 wins, 3 losses and 1 tie match, and a ranking of No. 15 in the NJCAA national poll.

It was an auspicious beginning, to say the least.

"What a great accomplishment for the girls, our program and for TJC athletics," head coach Corey Rose said. "The girls worked so hard all season, and to have the NJCAA recognize them as one of the best in the country is truly a reflection of all their hard work."

Women's soccer is TJC's 11th intercollegiate sport alongside women's volleyball, basketball, golf and tennis. Men's sports are football, baseball, soccer, basketball, golf and tennis.

Plano freshman Lauren Jeansonne advances toward the TJC goal in the first home match against Bossier Parish. The Apache Ladies defeated the the Lady Cavaliers, 10-0.

The Apache Ladies play in Division I, which provides the opportunity for full or partial scholarships to players.

Members of the first TJC women's soccer team are: Megan Funderburk, Saginaw; Amanda Williams, Tyler; Taylor DeLeon, Houston; Helen Bailey, Altrincham, England; Ashleigh Keelen, Metairie, La.; Scarlet Tarno, Cumby; Lucy Milward, Stockport, England; Vicky Patterson, Belfast, Northern Ireland; Ashley Wall, Miami, Fla.; Victoria Willingham, Tyler; Cara Newton, Nottingham, England; Carly Irby, Jacksonville; Kirsty McConachie, Belfast, Northern Ireland; Giselle Bryce-Cotes, Tyler; Christine Ragona, Lake Dallas; Cassandra Branch, Mississauga, Canada; Rian Humphreys, Montgomery, Wales; Lauren Jeansonne, Plano; Kayla Mason, Whitehouse; Whitleigh Sharp, Henderson; Ashton Scott, Lindale; Brittany Buford, Madison, Conn.; and Athena Gramates, Bowie, Md.

Whitehouse freshman defender Kayla Mason blushes when you remind her that she's "the first signee to the first Tyler Junior College women's soccer team."

"I'm still not used to hearing it," she said.

Mason was a senior at Whitehouse High School when she was approached by TJC men's head coach Steve Clements, who handled recruitment duties until Rose came on board.

She said signing day was an unexpected, surreal swirl of TV news cameras, interviews and TJC officials of all stripes.

"The college president and vice presidents were there," she said. "There was all this attention and I totally didn't expect it. Everyone was so nice, but I just couldn't believe what was happening."

Playing collegiate soccer wasn't a forgone conclusion for Mason.

"I played basketball in high school, too," she said, "and I really thought about pursuing it."

In the end, soccer won out.

"I've been playing soccer since I was 5 years old," she said, "and I played in the East Texas Spirit league and the Olympic Development Program in Dallas and Denton."

Upon meeting Rose, she knew she had made the right choice in TJC.

Two days after Mason signed with TJC, coach Corey Rose was hired from Belhaven College in Jackson, Miss.

"He came on right after I signed to play here," she said. "He's a really good coach, a nice person and we seem to have a lot of the same ideas on soccer."

It being a small world and all, Mason had actually heard of Rose even before he

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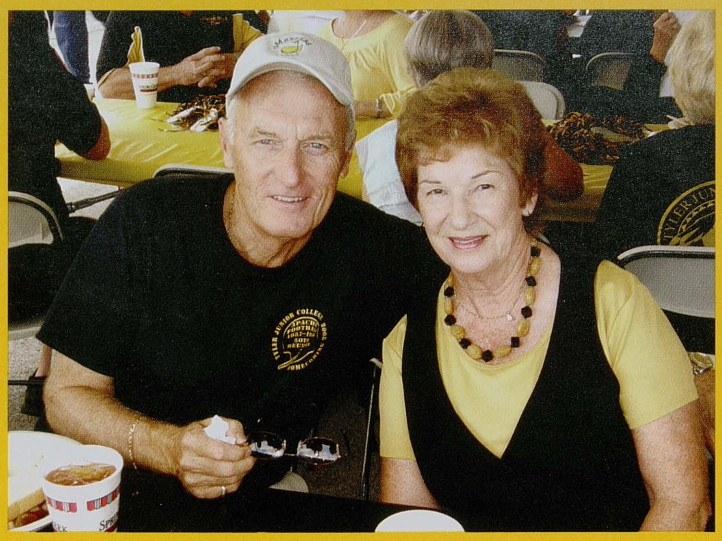
INAUGURAL RECEPTION

Dr. Lynn Gray, Dr. Louisa Schmid, Gene Branum and Marion Branum.

Jan Adams, Michelle Trammell, Carrie Hobbs and Pamela Wade.

Shirley Mallory, '51, greets Dr. Metke during the inaugural reception.

HOMECOMING 2008



Don and Gail Keasler at the pre-game barbecue.

Dr. Mike Metke with Provost Dr. Homer "Butch" Hayes.

C.C. Baker, Jr., talks with alumni award recipient Darren Kindred and Darren's sister and mother, Angela Smith and Nina Kindred.

ROSE FESTIVAL PARADE

Students, faculty and staff were invited by government instructor Dr. Manoucher Khosrowshahi to participate in Tyler's Rose Parade.

Students celebrate international studies in this float that also promotes TJC's three promises.

TJC's participiation in the Rose Parade included a convoy of six vehicles and approximately 50 students, faculty and staff members.

THEATRE TJC

The theater department performed Peter John Bailey's World War II play, *Passing Through*, in October.

Sarah Carson (Allison Pharr, right) meets the parents of soldier boyfriend Walter Dobbins (played by Daniella Colucci, plaid shirt, and Austin Strong) but is confronted by Susan Acton (Lexie Shelton), a girl from Walter's past who claims to be his fiancé.

The theater department performed *Christmas Belles*, a play co-written by TJC graduate Nick Hope, in December.

A Park Without Limitations

By Daisy Valle

EDITOR'S NOTE: Daisy Valle is a freshman general studies major from Chapel Hill who writes for the award-winning, student-produced Apache Pow-Wow newspaper. Look for future contributions from Apache Pow-Wow staff members in the Apache magazine and visit www.tjcnewspaper.com for the latest work from the Pow-Wow staff.

A long drive to Dallas seems almost endless to a young child with disabilities whose only aspiration is simply to play with friends.

Yet many endure that drive so that they may play in a park that allows them to interact and have fun. Fantasy Landing in Dallas is the only park close to Tyler that is truly ADA-approved.

As a community project for their project management class at TJC, a group of students wants to see that change. The group is working with the city of Tyler's Parks and Recreation Department to create a playground for Tyler children who are living with disabilities. They will be the first junior college class in the state to tackle a project of this size.

"I have volunteered with Shriner's Hospital when I worked in Galveston. I have done muscular dystrophy telethons. I have done all the walks, relays. I used to do all that so, to me, when you say a community park, Tyler does have a great park system of course, and we researched it first before we had decided," said Teresa Goodwin, a member of the class.

"These students blew me away with their efforts, research and what they have produced ..."

Goodwin says that all playground equipment is technically ADA-approved, yet children with disabilities still are unable to enjoy most playground equipment.

She and other members of the project management class believe the Rose City deserves a facility similar to the Dallas park, with customized ramps and pull tunnels with bars for children in wheelchairs. Brightly colored paths would help visually impaired children find their way through the play area.

The Dallas Southwest Osteopathic Physicians, Inc. originally provided the Dallas Parks and Recreation Department with a $70,200 grant to underwrite equipment costs and materials for Fantasy Landing and donated another $50,000 in 1990 to expand it.

Although the project management class wants the vision of their park to be their own, the concept of the park would draw on similar features and hold the same goal: to allow children with disabilities to play among their peers.

Providing access to play equipment like this, at Fantasy Landing in Dallas, is the goal of a student group that is working with the city of Tyler to create a similar park for special needs children.

That may not always happen even in Tyler's ADA accessible parks.

"All the playgrounds that we have are considered ADA accessible. Some of them are older standards that have been grandfathered (due to) the time that they were built," said John Webb, manager of Tyler Parks and Recreation Department. "The big thing on this type of park or this type of playground is not to design it for children that have mental or physical challenges - but to design it to include them."

Tyler's Mayor Barbara Bass said that the new sprayground in Faulkner Park meets the current standards for a handicap-accessible park.

"(Faulkner Park) has this playground for children that is basically flat and water actually comes up so you can roll out on it, if you wanted to," she said. "The newer ones have been built to the current standards, and then anything we can do to these older ones to add places for other citizens to be able to use that park better would be great."

Bass added that the city of Tyler has wanted a community-built park. Although the mayor said the city cut expenses by $4 million this fiscal year, the city has the land if the project management class has the vision and funding can be established.

The park is expected to be a two-year project and is planned to be funded through private donations, grants, fund-raising events and nonprofit contributions.

The park would feature hand rails, ramps, and wheelchair-safe surfaces. The class is considering equipment such as an over-sized see-saw, an easy swing bed, and safety surfaces. The park design, however, is in proposal stage and is open to modification.

The class's vision of a park for disabled children was presented to the city's park board in late October for initial consideration and gained its approval.

"We will be taking our completed proposal to the park board at the January meeting," Goodwin said. "This proposal

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Alumni NEWS

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION HONORS THREE AT HOMECOMING '08

The TJC alumni association recognized three award recipients during the 2008 Homecoming Dinner/Dance in October.

Dr. Kenneth Ragsdale, a member of the class of 1939, was named the year's Distinguished Alumnus. Ragsdale attended TJC from 1937-39. At the University of Texas at Austin, he received his Bachelor of Music degree in 1943, his Master of Music degree in 1949, his Master of Arts degree in history in 1967, and his Ph.D. in American studies in 1974.

Ken valued his TJC English instructor, Miss Allene Brandenburg, so much that he dedicated his 1998 book, *Big Bend Country: Land of the Unexpected*, to her.

"I continue to view my (TJC) experience as the foundation for whatever success I have achieved."

"When I left TJC for the University of Texas in Austin, my goals were clear cut and I possessed the confidence to achieve those goals. Now, some six decades later, I continue to view my Tyler Junior College experience as the foundation for whatever success I have achieved. For that, I am deeply appreciative," he said.

He has written extensively on Texas history. He is also a licensed pilot, real estate investor and orchestra leader in Austin.

His publications include: *Quicksilver: Terlingua and the Chisos Mining Company,* 1976; *Wings Over the Mexican Border*, 1984; *The Year America Discovered Texas: Centennial '36*, 1987; *Big Bend Country: Land of the Unexpected*, 1998; and *Austin, Cleared for Takeoff – Aviators, Businessmen and the Growth of an American City*, 2004.

Alumni award recipients, L-R, Ragsdale, Lunceford and Kindred.

Nancy Duckett Lunceford, '55, was presented the Apache Spirit Award. While attending TJC, Nancy Duckett Lunceford was an Apache Belle, a member of San Souci Sorority and Phi Theta Kappa. She met her husband, David, at TJC. They were married in 1955.

After his retirement as an Exxon executive in 1992, the Luncefords moved to the Van area and he served many years on the Tyler Junior College Board of Trustees.

In 2005, the couple moved to Tyler and she volunteers at the Karing Kitchen and the Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary. Nancy has always been very supportive of the College. Past president of the TJC Alumni Association Board of Directors, she has volunteered for more than 15 years, helping at the East Texas State Fair, at graduation ceremonies, membership drives and homecoming events. As a former Apache Belle, she is also a lifetime member of Apache Belle Gold and serves as treasurer.

Darren Kindred, a 1992 graduate of the TJC tennis tech program, was named Valuable Young Alumnus.

Kindred is the director of tennis and head teaching professional for Bucks County Racquet Club in Washington Crossing, Pa.

Since 2005, he has served as director of tennis and advisory board member for Orthotic and Prosthetic Assistance Fund of America and developed OPAF's First Volley, which conducts free adaptive tennis clinics for ambulatory players who either have limb loss or limb differences. Kindred developed First Volley in August of 2005 after working with Dana Bezar, a quadrilateral amputee. What began with strapping the racquet to her prosthetic arm with duct tape evolved into Prince Tennis manufacturing a machine part that fuses the racquet to the prosthesis.

First Volley began with one clinic in 2005, grew to six in 2006, then 12 in 2007. In 2008, 20 clinics were held in cities across the United States and Canada.

"The TJC tennis tech program instilled the value of giving back to the community, though sometimes this community of amputees actually ends up giving back to me," Kindred said.

A MESSAGE FROM ALUMNI PRESIDENT JAMES SHERIDAN

Dear Friends of Tyler Junior College,

I am honored to serve as the 2008-09 president for the TJC Alumni Association Board of Directors. I became an active member of the alumni association a few years ago because of my sincere fondness for the College. I began my college career at TJC in 1985 and have a lot of great memories. The alumni association mission is to promote our college in its endeavor to "reach new heights" by supporting its many programs, promoting its numerous qualities to our community and assisting in the recruitment of students to our campus. We encourage former students to join us, become involved members and help us establish additional scholarships for TJC students.

James Sheridan

What an exciting time at TJC! Tyler Junior College continues to grow in enrollment, and has surpassed the 10,000 student level! The college also continues to expand its campus through the completion of a major building project, the Ornelas Residential Complex, and the establishment of satellite facilities in Lindale and Jacksonville. Our new president, Dr. Michael Metke, comes to TJC with an impressive list of accomplishments and has already begun initiatives that will continue the tradition of excellent leadership at TJC. The faculty and staff at TJC are also committed to the school's challenge of providing a quality education, a vibrant student life and a commitment to community service.

Please take a moment to review the numerous benefits associated with becoming a member of the TJC Alumni Association. In addition to these benefits, it's important to note that the majority of funds raised through alumni association membership dues provide scholarships for TJC students. I hope you will consider joining the TJC Alumni Association, take advantage of the opportunities available to our members and help our College change lives.

Thank you for your support,

James Sheridan, Class of 1987
President, TJC Alumni Association

This year's STARs (Students to Alumni Representatives) scholarship recipients for 2008-09 are L-R, front row: Angela Jones, Kathryn Smith, Danielle Salinas, Amanda Duke, Kallie Murphy, Elise Dodson; second row: Amanda Marsh, Sara Scarborough, Beth Glass, Katy Richardson, Charles Lewis; back row: Christina Walker, Russell Sylvester, Laci Butler, Cory Schwark, Logan Wiggins, and Ryan Fowler.

Apache Belles, with rooms dedicated by private donation from dozens of Belle Gold alumni. Each dedicated room has a commemorative plaque reminding all who pass and all who live on the floor of the more than 60 years of Belle excellence in representing Tyler Junior College.

The Belles program was developed right after World War II when then-TJC president Dr. Harry E. Jenkins invited Mildred Stringer to form a girls' drill team, similar to what she'd done successfully at Tyler High School. Her efforts, and those of the dedicated Apache Belle directors who followed her, have created an ongoing group of young women who represent TJC and East Texas at local, state, national and international events with pride and poise.

Though the Belles have been a trademark of TJC for more than six decades, they've never before had a place such as this to live, congregate, and enjoy the Belle experience.

So far, 29 of the 32 Apache Belle rooms have been named, for a total of $145,000 contributed to the Apache Belle Heritage Endowment, which provides dedicated funds to support the Belle program. Much credit for the excitement and success of the fundraising effort goes to the 300 members of Belle Gold, the largest special alumni membership group for TJC.

"The endowment effort has been a tremendous success," said Joan Andrews, director of annual giving. "I'd like to thank Jasilyn Schaefer for her hard work in communicating with Belle alumni to ensure funding for Belles of the future."

To learn about the Belle Heritage Endowment, contact the TJC Foundation at 903-510-2382.

At a special event on Aug. 8, contributors to the Belle floor enjoyed a catered brunch and toured the rooms. Later in the day, friends of TJC were treated to a private preview of the facility. During a luncheon at Willow Brook Country Club, Mrs. Ornelas was made an honorary Apache Belle and Mr. Ornelas an honorary member of the Belle Guard.

In speaking at the preview event of the Ornelas' gifts to the college, Dr. Metke noted, "Their generosity has changed the very face of Tyler Junior College and has helped us meet the growing educational needs of this community."

Welcome Home!

The facility's student rooms were reserved well in advance of the August opening and a waiting list was established long before the semester began. Residents and guests took part in an official ribbon-cutting on Sept. 5.

With beautiful, natural vistas and many places to congregate, the complex has already become the new benchmark in construction quality and campus integration for future projects.

"I just hope and pray that a lot of the kids who don't have a lot will get to go and get to experience TJC because I think it is a wonderful place," said Mrs. Ornelas.

The new residence hall certainly provides another comfort on a growing and vibrant campus.

Gifts in Memory and Appreciation of First Belle Director Establish Stringer Memorial Lounge

Mildred Stringer's role in forming the Apache Belles cannot be overstated.

"She was asked to organize a physical activity that included character-building and performance for the College," said Margaret Loftis. "This was right after the War when her husband was coming back. It would have been very easy to stay at home, but she accepted the challenge. She literally called every family she knew in Tyler, all the fund-raising people, the businesses and raised the funds for uniforms and equipment."

Loftis, with the help of Eleanor Stringer, has worked hard to establish the naming of the lounge on the fourth floor of the Louise H. and Joseph Z. Ornelas Residential Complex's west wing as the Mildred A. Stringer Memorial Apache Belle Lounge.

The final contributions were recently made to the project, establishing a living memorial to the Belles' founder and all of the group's directors since formation.

"I did not know Mildred personally, but I know I would have liked her, after hearing the comments of my late husband and her many friends in Tyler," said Eleanor Stringer, second wife of Dr. Harold Stringer. "She was a beautiful, well-groomed woman who instilled in each of her girls those same qualities, and her own values of lady-like character, service to others, belief in God and humble gratitude for the honor and opportunities that were theirs as members of the Apache Belles organization."

Loftis agreed to lead the fund-raising effort to honor Mildred's contribution to the Belles.

"I challenge anyone to find a Tyler product that speaks more wholesomely and with more character than the presentation of the Apache Belles," she said.

The lounge will include photographs and commemorative information about each of the Belle directors.

A dedication ceremony will be held in the spring.

Promise 1: **Community continued**

classes were planned for the spring 2009 term, with the hope of expanding curriculum in the future.

"We are excited at the opportunity to provide college credit courses at the facility and we are grateful to the Lindale Economic Development Council for agreeing to provide space in a brand new facility at no cost to the College," said Dr. Metke.

"I particularly want to thank the Lindale EDC Executive Director James K. "Red" Brown and Stan Surratt, the superintendent of the Lindale Independent School District, for working with us on this partnership."

"'Red' Brown was the commander of a Texas Army National Guard brigade in Iraq, and his leadership skills have certainly become apparent as he has worked on this cause to bring a higher education facility to the people of Lindale," he added.

Surratt, a 1984 TJC graduate, said the Lindale classrooms will "provide a great avenue for higher education instruction" in the Lindale community, for students of Lindale High School and others.

"There is just a lot of potential and we appreciate Dr. Metke for his leadership and vision in this effort," Surratt said.

Dr. Metke and Paul Monagan, dean of allied health and nursing, are working with Rusk State Hospital to schedule classes there for hospital employees and others. Courses such as medical terminology are being considered at Rusk State Hospital, which also serves as a TJC clinical site.

"We want to work with all of our service area to offer college courses that are valuable and convenient to them," Dr. Metke said. "TJC can be a life boat, not just for citizens who want to improve upon their career opportunities, but also for communities faced with economic challenges as well."

Dr. Metke addresses the crowd gathered at ETMC Jacksonville for the announcement of the TJC partnership, as members of the board of trustees look on.

Promise 2: **Women's Soccer continued**

moved from Mississippi.

"When I was a freshman in high school, one of my friends on the soccer team was a senior and she went to play for Coach Rose at Belhaven," she said. "She told me about how much she loved playing for him. This is her senior year, so I think she's really disappointed that he isn't there."

Freshman Rian Humphreys, Wales, controls the ball against Bossier Parish.

Apparently, Belhaven's loss was TJC's gain.

During Rose's five seasons at Belhaven, the women's soccer team won 30, lost 35 and tied 4 matches. Also during that time, the team held a 3.0 grade-point average or better.

In 2004, he was named the Gulf Coast Athletic Conference Coach of the Year after finishing the season with a 7-1 mark. He also served as an adjunct faculty member at Belhaven, teaching in the sports administration department.

In addition to his duties as TJC head women's soccer coach, Rose teaches health and kinesiology.

"It's not often that someone offers you the chance to build a program from scratch," Rose said, "and that was just too tempting to pass up.

"The support that TJC and the community have shown has been tremendous, and Tyler has been a great fit for my family and me."

Building a program brings new opportunities and also its share of challenges, not the least of which, he said, was having a team of 21 freshmen who were absolutely new to the world of college athletics.

"It's been a different level from what they were used to," he said, "and they definitely met the challenge.

"I'm excited about what lies ahead for women's soccer at TJC."

is what we have been working on all semester in our project management class, and we wanted to make sure it is perfect before we take it back to the park board. We are waiting for a vendor to complete some schematics and 3-D drawings."

The "park without limitations" project is the latest community service for instructor Don Blaine's classes. Students in his leadership class work each year with local Make-A-Wish children to make their dreams come true.

"The project management class focuses on allowing students an opportunity to build skills necessary for a successful project management position," Blaine said.

"The text and supporting material we use in class is great but the real learning comes from the 'hands-on' experience the students get from putting together and managing their own project. I let the students pick their own project and then they run with it. Throughout the semester we go through the process of plan construction and they are asked to do a tremendous amount of research outside of class to support their project.

"I can tell you that this is the first semester we have taught this class and these students blew me away with their efforts, research and what they have produced. Their plan can be compared to ones you may find at any top notch graduate business school.

I am extremely proud of every one of these students. The academic freedom at TJC and the support from the departments and the deans allow us to have a classroom environment to try new things to enhance learning that few colleges and universities enjoy and that's why you see things like this in classrooms like ours."

Tyler Junior College Foundation

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The Three Promises of Tyler Junior College.

1

A quality education.

Our courses are taught by faculty who chose their profession not to do research but because they have a passion for helping others learn. Our student-to-teacher ratio is 20:1, giving students their best chance at success.

2

A vibrant student life.

Research has proven that an active student is a successful one. At TJC, performance groups, athletics, music, band, drama and a wide array of student organizations provide the full college experience.

3

Community service.

We're the community's college. We expect our faculty, staff and students to pitch in wherever possible to help others. By losing one's self in service to others, connections are made that improve our lives and the understanding of our places in society.

TYLER JUNIOR COLLEGE

CHANGING LIVES

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